

and the

S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400 Charleston, South Carolina 29405

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N #2004-1D-067-CP

19 MARCH 2004

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et seq.) an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

> THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND c/o DERRICK COAXUM HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA, 29928 CHARLESTON OFFICE

MAR \$1.2004

for a permit to place fill material in wetlands and construct boardwalks and an observation deck in areas adjacent to

PORT ROYAL SOUND

located at the Barker Field Park Expansion near the intersection of Baygull Road and Old Mitchellville Road on Hilton Head Island in Beaufort County, South Carolina.

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by both of the above mentioned offices until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, 19 APRIL 2004

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of the placement of approximately 162 cubic yards of fill material at 2 locations in a freshwater wetland area, impacting 0.05 acre. Also proposed is the construction of an observation deck, comprising of a 15' x 20' platform, with an attached 6' wide x 75' long walkway that will span tidal marsh areas. Also proposed is the construction of three boardwalks, totaling 418' in length. These 3 boardwalks are considered bridges by the Corps of Engineers and will not require a Department of the Army Permit. However, authorization for their construction is still required by the SCDHEC/OCRM. The purpose of the wetland fill work is to provide suitable areas for the construction of a parking lot and access path and the observation deck and boardwalks will allow access to natural areas. All work is associated with Barker Field Park Expansion and will be for use and enjoyment of the general public. The applicant has provided a mitigation plan to compensate for wetland losses associated with the work.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act and, as appropriate, the criteria established under authority of Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact me at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.

S. Dean Herndon Project Manager Regulatory Division

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers







